

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

LAMONT BULLOCK,)
Plaintiff,) 2:20-cv-808-NR-MPK
v.)
MIKE HICE, et al.,)
Defendants.)

ORDER ADOPTING REPORT & RECOMMENDATION (ECF 103)

Plaintiff Lamont Bullock, an inmate presently incarcerated at the State Correctional Institution at Greene, brings this *pro se* action against twenty-eight Defendants. Mr. Bullock's claims arise out of allegations that he was deliberately exposed to contaminated foods and other harmful substances, and that he was denied proper medical treatment. ECF 20.

Before the Court is Magistrate Judge Maureen P. Kelly's Report and Recommendation (ECF 103), recommending that the Court grant the motion to dismiss (ECF 63) filed by a group of co-Defendants referred to as the "Medical Defendants."¹ Mr. Bullock has filed objections to the R&R. ECF 108; ECF 109.

After carefully considering the record and upon a *de novo* review of the R&R, the Court overrules Mr. Bullock’s objections, and adopts Judge Kelly’s R&R as the opinion of the Court. *See United States v. Raddatz*, 447 U.S. 667, 676 (1980) (“[I]n providing for a ‘de novo determination’ ... Congress intended to permit whatever reliance a district judge, in the exercise of sound judicial discretion, chose to place on a magistrate’s proposed findings and recommendations.” (cleaned up)); *Henderson v. Carlson*, 812 F.2d 874, 878 (3d Cir. 1987) (“[I]t must be assumed that the normal

¹ The Medical Defendants include Dr. Baird, CRNP James Fetterman, PA Mark Hammer, Michael Hice, and Dr. Smyth.

practice of the district judge is to give some reasoned consideration to the magistrate's report before adopting it as the decision of the court. When a district court does accept the Magistrate's report, that is a judicial act, and represents the district court's considered judgment." (cleaned up)). The Court overrules Mr. Bullock's objections for the reasons stated in its prior orders adopting the R&Rs granting the motions to dismiss filed by the other parties in the case (ECF 116; ECF 117) and in the R&R recommending that the Court grant the motion to dismiss filed by the Medical Defendants (ECF 103).

Therefore, the motion to dismiss filed by the Medical Defendants is hereby **GRANTED**. However, because the Court cannot state with certainty that Mr. Bullock would be unable to plead any viable claim, he is granted limited leave to amend. That is, to the extent he can cure the deficiencies identified in the R&R, he may file a Second Amended Complaint as to his Eighth Amendment claims against the Medical Defendants. Mr. Bullock is *not* granted leave to amend relative to his assault, battery, and ADA claims. All these claims are dismissed with prejudice.

Mr. Bullock must file any Second Amended Complaint by no later than **October 28, 2022**. Failure to do so will result in all his claims being dismissed with prejudice.

Date: September 28, 2022

BY THE COURT:

/s/ J. Nicholas Ranjan

United States District Judge